GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5555
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005
PRODUCTION OF PADDY
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual paddy production in the country during the last three years, particularly from Karnataka;

(b) whether the cultivable land for paddy production is shrinking year after year in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(c) if so, whether the scarcity of rainfall and lesser amount of storage results in lower output of paddy production.

(d) if so, the other main reasons for the lower output of paddy production;

(e) the amount of loss incurred by the farmers in Karnataka during the last three years; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure adequate quantity of water for the farmers and also to boost paddy production in the country, especially in Karnataka?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHUR1A)

(a) and (b) The area under paddy cultivation and production of paddy for Karnataka as well as all India for the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 are shown in the table below:

Areaâ€”in Million hectares
Productionâ€”in Million tonnes

Year	Item	All India	Karnataka
2001-02	Area	44.90	1.42
	Production	140.01	4.85
2002-03	Area	41.18	1.15
	Production	107.73	3.59
2003-04	Area	42.50	1.15
	Production	132.42	3.77

The area and production of paddy in Karnataka show a declining trend over the last three years.

(c) and (d) The rainfall situation in Karnataka for the last three years is shown in the Statement, which shows that the rainfall during the monsoon period in Karnataka was below normal consecutively for 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. The availability of water in the reservoirs was also inadequate during this period. While the availability of adequate water is the main factor which affects the production of paddy, the other factors are appropriate temperature, timely availability of fertilizers, market price of the produce etc. The paddy production in Karnataka suffered because of successive drought during the last three years. As a consequence, farmers have diverted rainfed paddy area to other remunerative crops like Maize and Soyabean which also contributed to reduction in paddy area and paddy production.

(e) and (f) The loss in production (decrease in production over the previous year) suffered by the farmers in Karnataka during the last three years is shown in the table below.

(Million tonnes)

Year	Food-grains	Oil-seeds	Sugar-cane	Cotton$
2001-02	2.29	0.52	9.91	0.24

2002-03 2.03 0.00 0.53 0.28
2003-04 0.03 0.04 166.85 0.01
$Million bales of 170 kgs. each.

In order to overcome the scarcity of irrigation water, System of Rice Intensification Method of paddy cultivation is being popularised and encouraged in the state. Farmers are also being advised to grow other remunerative crops like pulses, oilseeds, cotton etc.
Statement

Rainfall data of Karnataka for last three years:-

	Year	Monsoon	Post Monsoon	Winter	Pre-Monsoon
Rainfallin mm					
Actual	2001-02	771.6	179.0	15.3	117.4
Normal		847.1	186.9	5.4	132.5
Actual	2002-03	603.7	204.7	3.4	60.8
Normal		958.1	191.9	4.5	139.5
Actual	2003-04	732.9	174.4	2.5	246.7
Normal		897.3	188.1	4.9	136.7